

November 11,
1914.

To Kermit Roosevelt: "I cannot expect most people to believe that I have not for years been happier than since election. I have worked very hard and practically without intermission for a long time. Now what I most desire is to be free from engagements and stay out here with Mother and without too much to do, and since election I have been quite busy but it is not exhausting labor and will diminish rather than increase. We have had ten lovely days here. I have ridden once or twice. Two or three times I have taken Mother for a row and we have walked together and sat by the wood fire in the late afternoon and evening. I was going to say that I have been as happy as a king, but as a matter of fact I have been infinitely happier than any of the kings I know, poor devils! Just at the moment it seems to me that King Albert of Belgium, in spite of the awful misfortunes of himself and his country, is of all of them the one who is leading the life I most admire.'/"

Writing again to Kermit on Jan. 27, 1915, he gave this interesting review of his career:

"My immediate and acute trouble is over. The Progressive party cannot in all human probability make another fight as a national party; and, if it does, there will be no expectation that I will have to lead. I am through my hard and disagreeable work. I do not mean that there won't come unpleasant and disagreeable things in connection with the party; but there won't be any such

heart-breaking-
and grinding work as I had last summer. The
trouble was
that most of my lieutenants, who were good,
fine fellows, as
disinterested and upright as possible, could
not realize that
the rank and file had left them; and they felt
that I was
going back on them if I refused to head the
old-style type
of fight. I had to make it; and that was all
there was to
it.

"All my life in politics, I have striven to do
just what
you and Ted are striving to do in business and
in your life
generally, that is, to make the necessary
working com-